JOSHUA WILLIAMSON
ANDREA MILANA
LEE LOUGHRIDGE
G.I. JOE
image
#08

ENERGON UNIVERSE

CODENAME:

G.I. JOE

[MISSION LOG [02.008.01]

LEAD OPERATIVES:

JOSHUA WILLIAMSON
[WRITER]

ANDREA MILANA
[ARTIST]

LEE LOUGHRIDGE
[COLORIST]

RUS WOOTON
[LETTERER]

COVER SUPPORT:

TOM REILLY

ANDREA MILANA

ALAN QUAH

MARCO FERRARI

ROSSI GIFFORD

HOWARD PORTER & ROMULO FAJARDO JR.

JASON HOWARD & ANNALISA LEONI

JASON HOWARD

LEIRIX LI

GROUND SUPPORT:

BEN ABERNATHY
[EDITOR]

ANDRES JUAREZ
[PUBLICATION DESIGN]

ASHBY FLORENCE
[PRODUCTION]

SPECIAL THANKS TO HASBRO'S ED LANE, LINDA LEE, TAYLA REO & KELLY ROSE JOHNSON FOR THEIR INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE.

Licensed by Hasbro

FOR SKYBOUND ENTERTAINMENT

ROBERT KIRKMAN *CHAIRMAN*
DAVID ALPERT *CEO*
SEAN MACKIEWICZ *SVP, PUBLISHER*
ANDRES JUAREZ *CREATIVE DIRECTOR, EDITORIAL*
ARUNE SINGH *VP, BRAND, EDITORIAL*
SHANNON MEEHAN *SENIOR PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER*
ALEX ANTONE *EDITORIAL DIRECTOR*
BEN ABERNATHY *EXECUTIVE EDITOR*
NACHIE MARSHAM *SENIOR EDITOR*
BLAKE KOBASHIGAWA *SENIOR DIRECTOR, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, EDITORIAL*
JILLIAN CRAB *ASSOCIATE ART DIRECTOR, EDITORIAL*
ASHBY FLORENCE *PRODUCTION ARTIST*
RICHARD MERCADO *PRODUCTION ARTIST*
ALEX HARGETT *DIRECTOR OF BRAND, EDITORIAL*
EV CLEMENTS *BRAND SPECIALIST, EDITORIAL*
ANNA GEORGE *BRAND COORDINATOR, EDITORIAL*
GREG FOREMAN *SENIOR CROWDFUNDING MANAGER*
DAN PETERSEN *SENIOR DIRECTOR, PUBLISHING OPERATIONS*
FOREIGN RIGHTS & LICENSING INQUIRIES: FOREIGNLICENSING@SKYBOUND.COM
SKYBOUND.COM

FOR IMAGE COMICS, INC:

ROBERT KIRKMAN *CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER*
ERIK LARSEN *CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER*
TODD MCFARLANE *PRESIDENT*
MARC SILVESTRI *CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER*
JIM VALENTINO *EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT*
ERIC STEPHENSON *PUBLISHER / CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER*
NICOLE LAPALME *VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE*
LEANNA CAUNTER *ACCOUNTING ANALYST*
SUE KORPELA *ACCOUNTING & HR MANAGER*
ALEX COX *DIRECTOR OF DIRECT MARKET SALES*
MARGOT WOOD *VICE PRESIDENT OF BOOK MARKET SALES*
CHLOE RAMOS *BOOK MARKET & LIBRARY SALES MANAGER*
KAT SALAZAR *VICE PRESIDENT OF PR & MARKETING*
DEANNA PHELPS *MARKETING DESIGN MANAGER*
JIM VISCARDI *VICE PRESIDENT OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT*
LORELEI BUNJES *VICE PRESIDENT OF DIGITAL STRATEGY*
EMILIO BAUTISTA *DIGITAL SALES COORDINATOR*
DIRK WOOD *VICE PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL SALES & LICENSING*
RYAN BREWER *INTERNATIONAL SALES & LICENSING MANAGER*
DREW GILL *ART DIRECTOR*
HEATHER DOORNINK *VICE PRESIDENT OF PRODUCTION*
IAN BALDESSARI *PRINT MANAGER*
MELISSA GIFFORD *CONTENT MANAGER*
DREW FITZGERALD *CONTENT MANAGER*
ERIKA SCHNATZ *SENIOR PRODUCTION ARTIST*
WESLEY GRIFFITH *PRODUCTION ARTIST*
RICH FOWLKS *PRODUCTION ARTIST*
JON SCHLAFFMAN *PRODUCTION ARTIST*
IMAGECOMICS.COM

G.I. JOE #8. JUNE 2025. PUBLISHED BY IMAGE COMICS, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION:PO BOX 14457, PORTLAND, OR 97293. G.I. JOE AND HASBRO AND ALL RELATED TRADEMARKS AND LOGOS ARE TRADEMARKS OF HASBRO, INC. ©2025 HASBRO. IMAGE COMICS® AND ITS LOGOS ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS AND COPYRIGHTS OF IMAGE COMICS, INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. NO PART OF THIS PUBLICATION MAY BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED IN ANY FORM OR BY ANY MEANS (EXCEPT FOR SHORT EXCERPTS FOR REVIEW PURPOSES) WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSION OF IMAGE COMICS, INC. ALL NAMES, CHARACTERS, EVENTS AND LOCALES IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE ENTIRELY FICTIONAL. ANY RESEMBLANCE TO ACTUAL PERSONS (LIVING OR DEAD), EVENTS OR PLACES, WITHOUT SATIRIC INTENT, IS COINCIDENTAL. DIGITAL EDITION.

WAAHHH
THE PIT.
WAAHHH
WAAHHH
SHE ALREADY TOOK DOWN THE OTHERS.
WE HAVE TO GET HER. FAST.
I CAN SMELL HER.
ONE--GROSS. TWO--SHE'S NOT WEARING PERFUME.
NO, NOT PERFUME.
LEATHER.
DON'T WORRY, COVER GIRL.

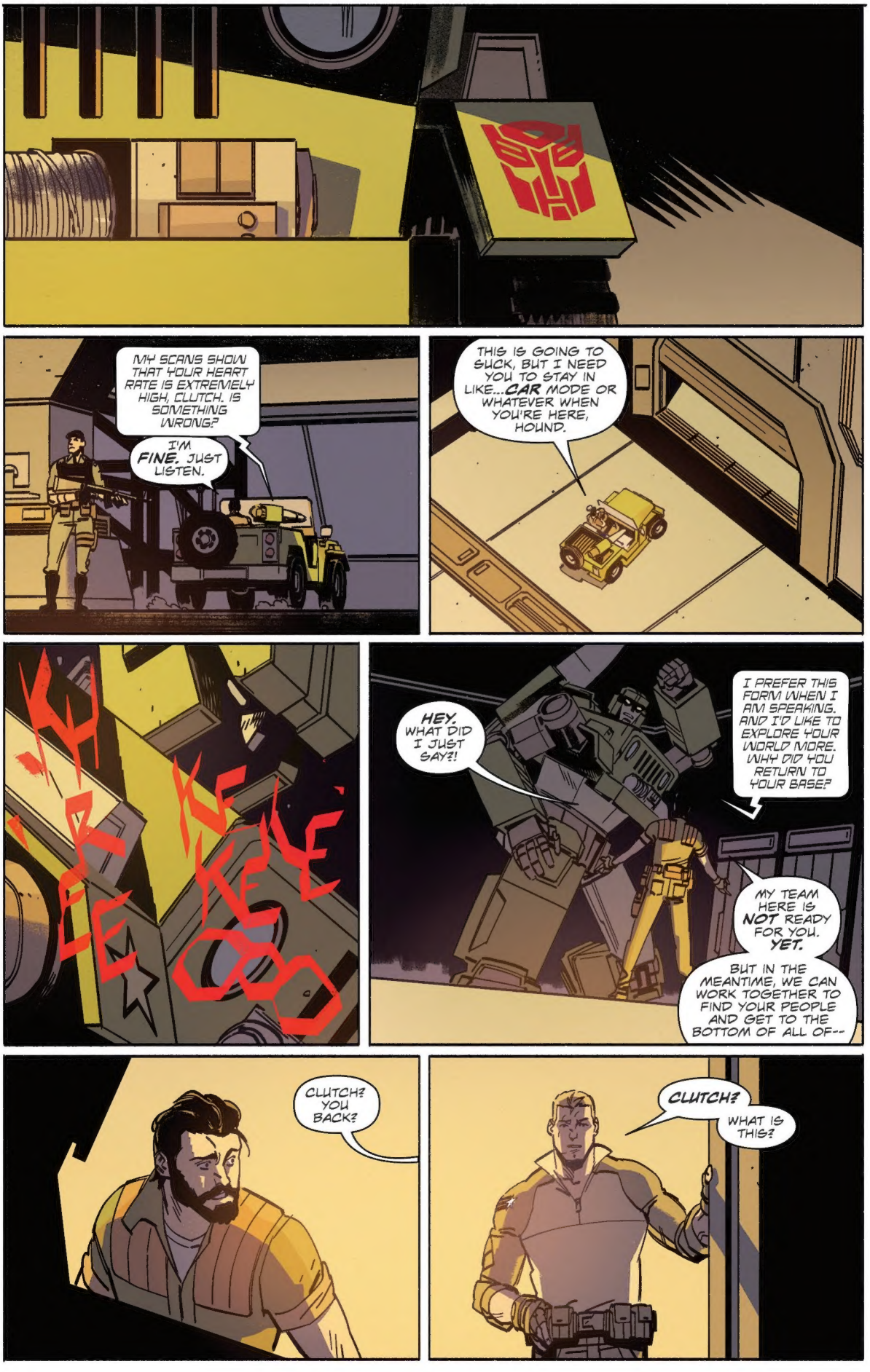
BARONESS IS NOT GETTING AWAY FROM US.
WE SHOULD SPLIT UP...

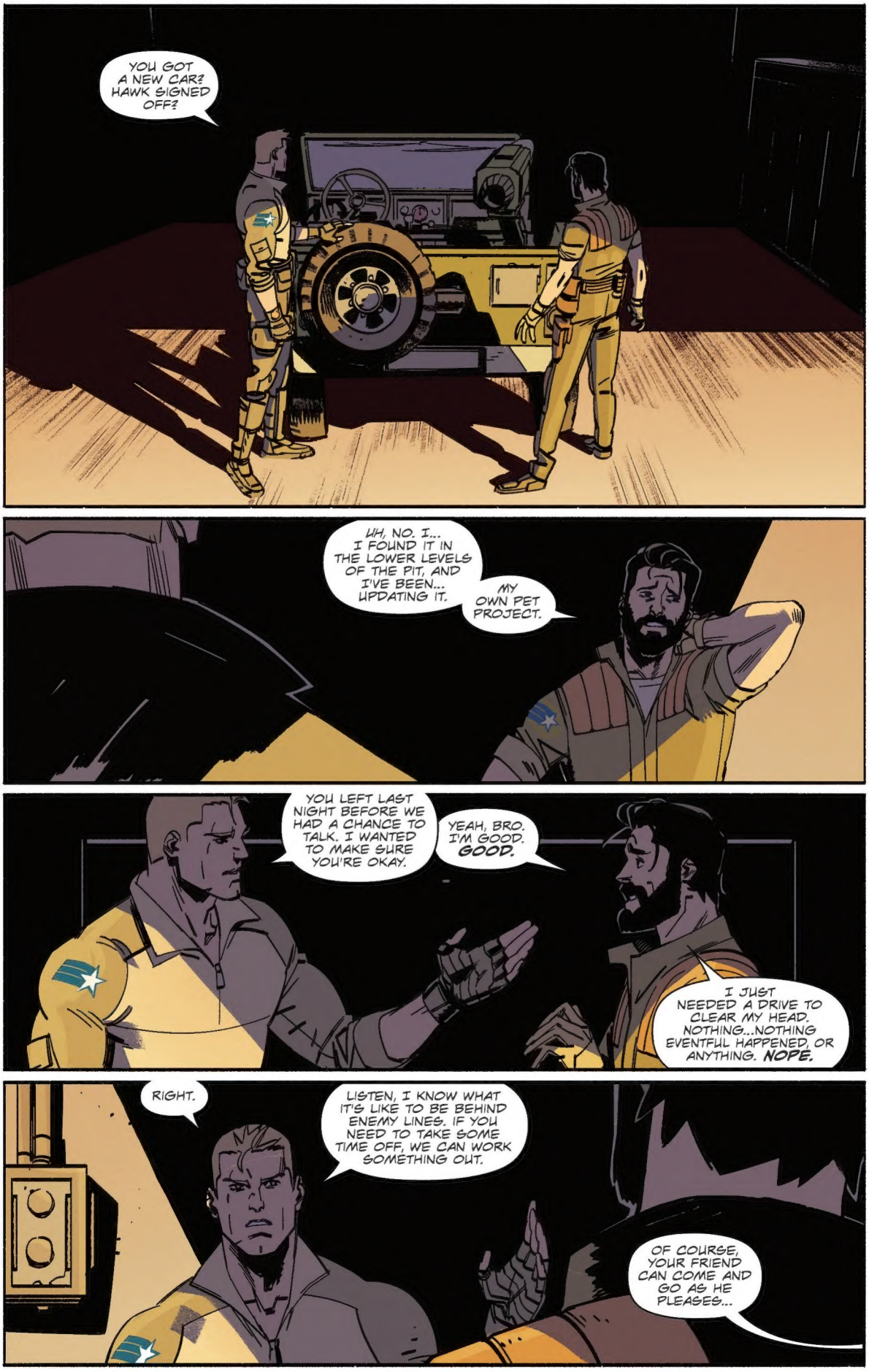
THERE ARE NO EXITS IN THIS SECTION OF THE PIT.
GO DOWN THAT CORRIDOR AND LOOP AROUND. WE'LL TRAP HER.
NICE TRY!
PLEASE.
HA.
BANG!

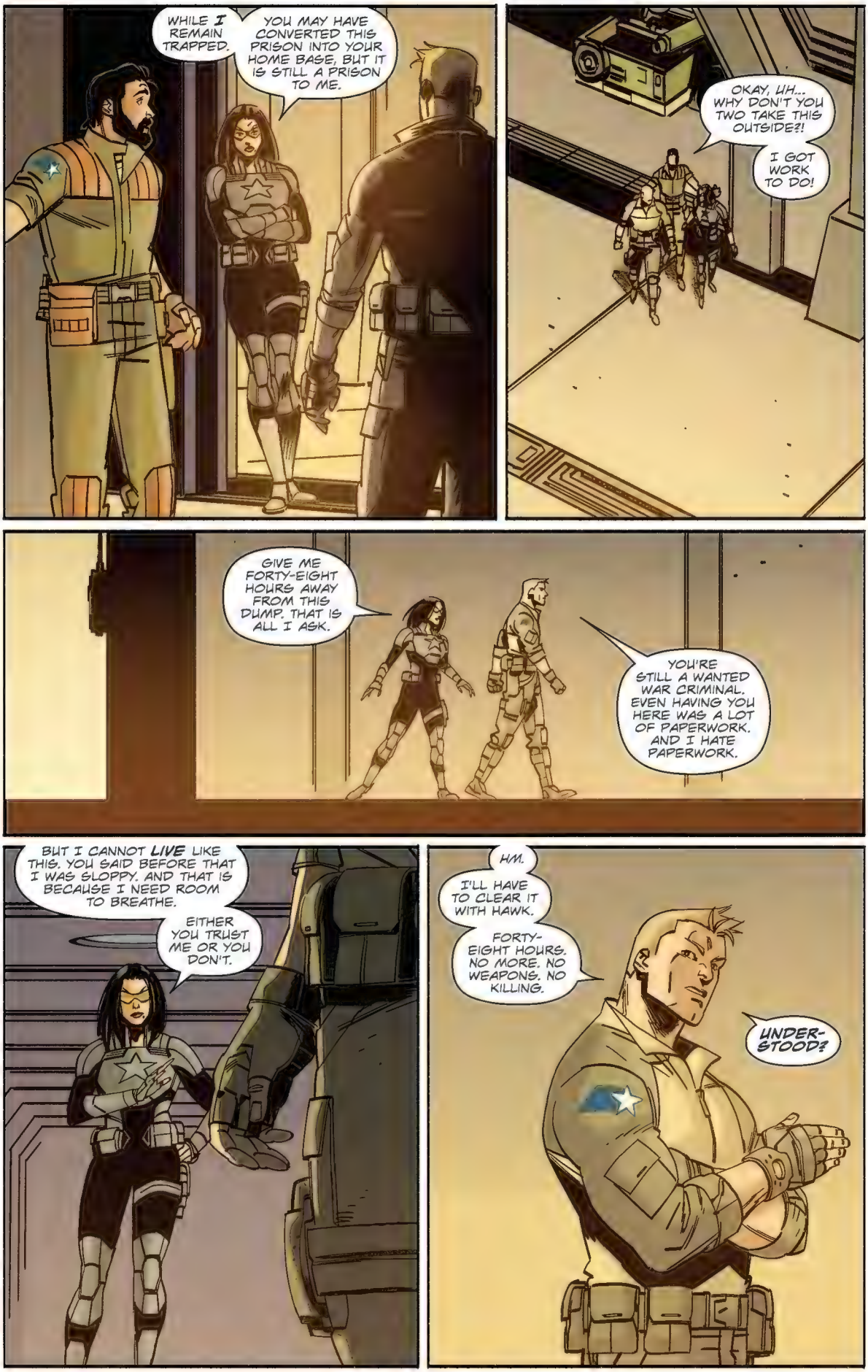
DAMMIT.
YOU'RE DEAD, COVER GIRL.
SO ARE YOU.
EXCUSE ME?
YOU STOPPED TO POSE, BARONESS.
ALWAYS A MISTAKE.

TRAINING EXERCISE COMPLETE.
YOU FELL FOR OUR LITTLE "SPLITTING UP" RUSE.
I DID NO SUCH THING.
RISK IS RIGHT, BARONESS. YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN COVER GIRL WAS JUST BAIT TO DRAW YOU OUT. YOUR HEAD ISN'T FULLY HERE.
THE MOVES WERE GOOD, THOUGH. I LOVED YOU HIDING IN THE CEILING.
THIS IS A WASTE OF MY TIME, DUKE.
HOW DO THESE... GAMES... HELP US?
THE FIGHT WE HAVE AHEAD OF US IS NOT A GAME, ANASTASIA. WE NEARLY GOT OUR ASSES HANDED TO US AT M.A.R.S. INDUSTRIES AND WERE LUCKY TO ESCAPE.
OKAY, EVERYBODY. LET'S DO IT AGAIN. START FROM THE TOP. TWO VS TWO THIS TIME. STALKER, YOU TEAM WITH BARONESS.
AGAIN, DUKE? C'MON. WE'VE BEEN RUNNING THESE TRAINING EXERCISES ALL MORNING.
AND WE'RE GOING TO DO IT AGAIN AND AGAIN.
WE NEED TO BE READY...

"FOR COBRA."
SO, THIS IS WHAT DUKE WAS OBSESSED WITH.
YOU HAD ONE OF THESE... ROBOTS... IN YOUR POSSESSION?
IT WAS A BROKEN AND DAMAGED MODEL. BUT IT IS NOW IN A LOCATION...THAT I CAN NOT RETURN TO.
BECAUSE...?
I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT I STILL NEED TO KEEP SOME THINGS TO MYSELF, DESTRO. IF I WERE TO REVEAL ALL MY SECRETS TO YOU, YOU MIGHT THINK YOU NO LONGER NEED ME AND DO SOMETHING... RASH.
REGARDLESS, WE HAVE ALREADY ANNOUNCED OURSELVES TO THE WORLD. AND YET, WE ARE NOT READY TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THAT CONFLICT. WE WOULD NOT BE COMING FROM A PLACE OF STRENGTH. OUR NEXT MISSION NEEDS TO BE QUIETER. WE TAKE A NOTE FROM THESE ROBOTS' PLAYBOOK AND HIDE IN PLAIN SIGHT.
AGREED. I'LL SEND MERCER TO SEATTLE TO SEE WHAT HE CAN RECOVER. IF ANY OTHER PIECES WERE LEFT BEHIND LIKE THE SHARD.
I DON'T WANT PIECES. I NEED A WORKING MODEL. ONE THAT IS STILL COMPLETE.
HOW EXACTLY DO YOU PLAN TO FIND ONE?


MY SCANS SHOW THAT YOUR HEART RATE IS EXTREMELY HIGH, CLUTCH. IS SOMETHING WRONG?
I'M FINE. JUST LISTEN.
THIS IS GOING TO SUCK, BUT I NEED YOU TO STAY IN LIKE...CAR MODE OR WHATEVER WHEN YOU'RE HERE, HOUND.
KRKKK


YOU GOT A NEW CAR? HAWK SIGNED OFF?
UH, NO. I... I FOUND IT IN THE LOWER LEVELS OF THE PIT, AND I'VE BEEN... UPDATING IT.
MY OWN PET PROJECT.
YOU LEFT LAST NIGHT BEFORE WE HAD A CHANCE TO TALK. I WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE OKAY.
YEAH, BRO. I'M GOOD. GOOD.
I JUST NEEDED A DRIVE TO CLEAR MY HEAD. NOTHING...NOTHING EVENTFUL HAPPENED, OR ANYTHING. NOPE.
RIGHT.
LISTEN, I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE BEHIND ENEMY LINES. IF YOU NEED TO TAKE SOME TIME OFF, WE CAN WORK SOMETHING OUT.
OF COURSE, YOUR FRIEND CAN COME AND GO AS HE PLEASES...

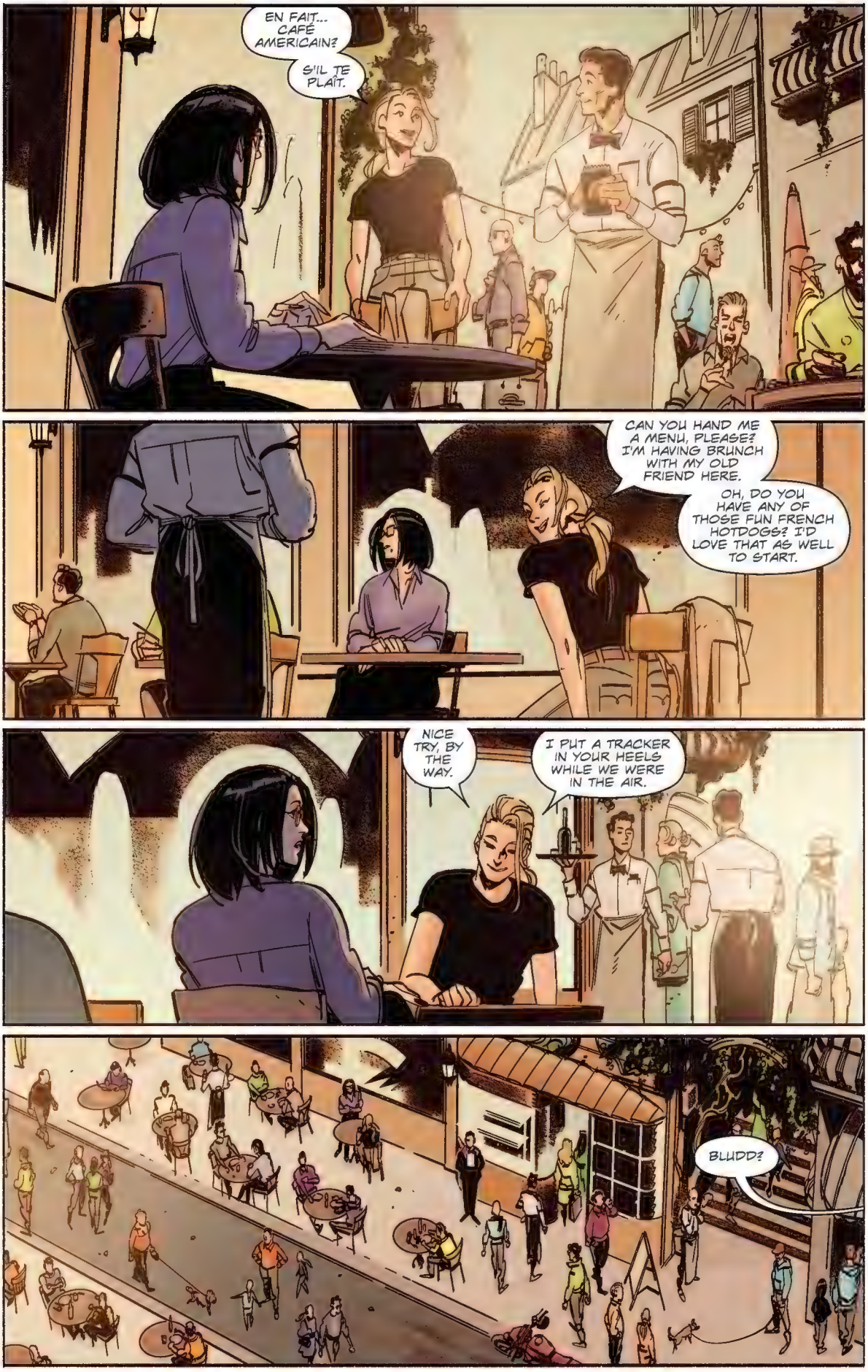

WHILE I REMAIN TRAPPED.
YOU MAY HAVE CONVERTED THIS PRISON INTO YOUR HOME BASE, BUT IT IS STILL A PRISON TO ME.
OKAY, UH... WHY DON'T YOU TWO TAKE THIS OUTSIDE?!
I GOT WORK TO DO!
GIVE ME FORTY-EIGHT HOURS AWAY FROM THIS DUMP. THAT IS ALL I ASK.
YOU'RE STILL A WANTED WAR CRIMINAL. EVEN HAVING YOU HERE WAS A LOT OF PAPERWORK. AND I HATE PAPERWORK.
BUT I CANNOT LIVE LIKE THIS. YOU SAID BEFORE THAT I WAS SLOPPY. AND THAT IS BECAUSE I NEED ROOM TO BREATHE.
EITHER YOU TRUST ME OR YOU DON'T.
HM.
I'LL HAVE TO CLEAR IT WITH HAWK.
FORTY-EIGHT HOURS. NO MORE. NO WEAPONS. NO KILLING.
UNDER-STOOD?

THE JET IS READY TO YOUR SPECIFICATIONS, BARONESS.
ALLOW ME, MA'AM.
YOUR FAVORITE BOTTLE OF WINE IS ALREADY ON ICE.
EXCELLENT.
AND WOULD YOUR FRIEND LIKE A GLASS, AS WELL?
MY FRIEND?
OH. YOU.

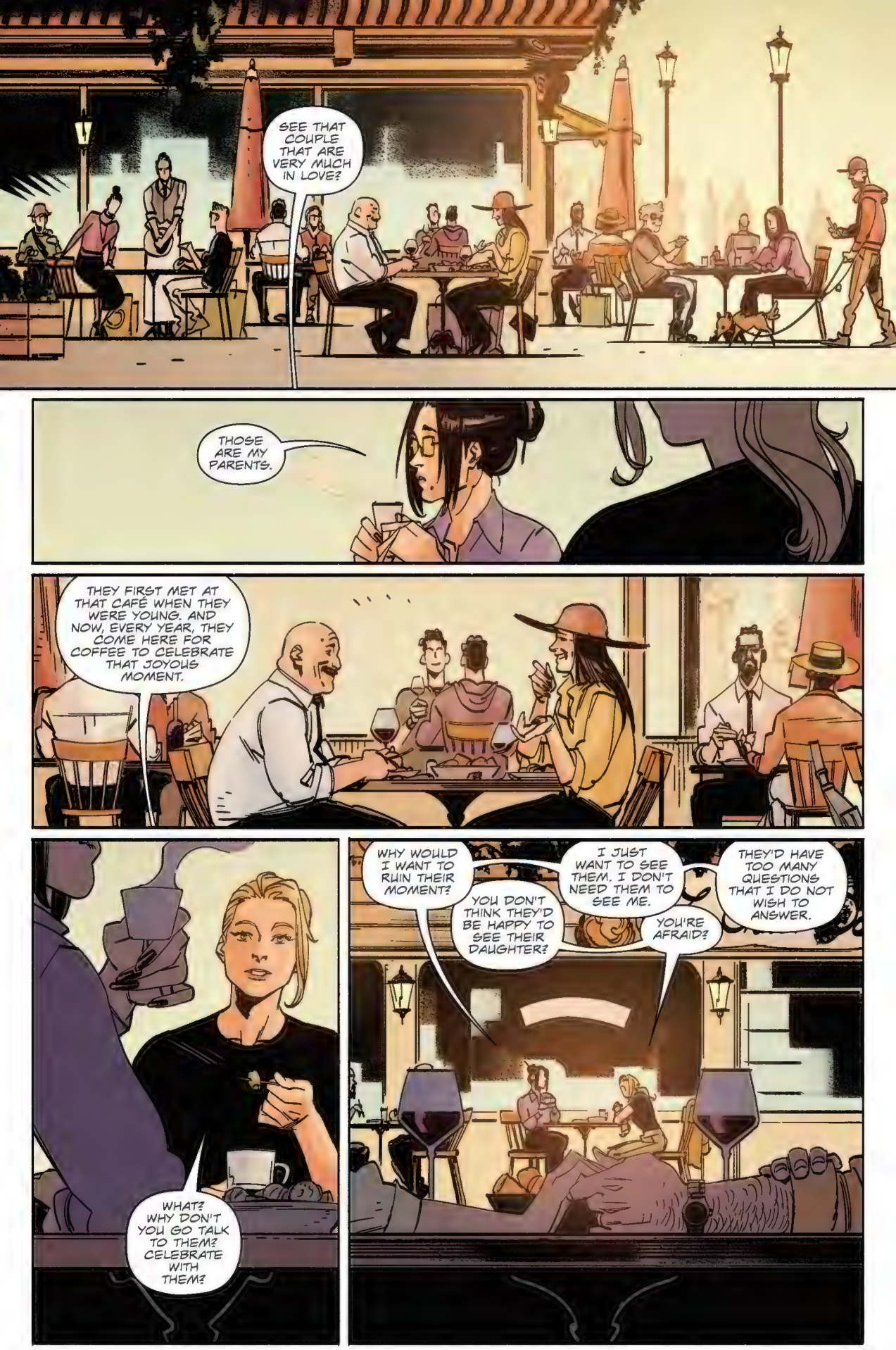
YOU AIN'T LEAVING WITHOUT ME. DUKE'S ORDERS.
FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS, WE'RE ATTACHED AT THE HIP.
I DON'T NEED A BABY-SITTER.
I'M JUST FOLLOWING ORDERS. BUT...I DON'T THINK YOU'RE WRONG. WE ALL NEED A LITTLE R&R TO REMIND US OF WHAT WE'RE FIGHTING FOR.
I CAN CARRY MY OWN BAG, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
WHAT A TREAT FOR YOU. RIDING ON A PRIVATE JET FOR THE FIRST TIME.
FIRST TIME? BARONESS, PLEASE.
I WAS A MODEL BEFORE I ENLISTED, REMEMBER? HAD SHOOTS ALL OVER. I'VE BEEN FLOWN AROUND THE WORLD ON QUITE A FEW PRIVATE JETS.
MY FAVORITE BEING THE GULFSTREAM G650ER. HELL, I'VE EVEN FLOWN IN AIR FORCE ONE A FEW TIMES.
LET ME TELL YOU, THAT IS LUXURY.
YOURS IS CUTE, THO'.
CUTE?
OKAY, LADIES. BUCKLE UP AND SETTLE IN.
WE ARE ON OUR WAY.

PARIS, FRANCE.
PARIS? I LOVE PARIS. WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO FIRST?
HOW ABOUT WE MAKE A STOP BY NOTRE DAME AND SEE THE REPAIRS. BUT I'M GUESSING YOU'D RATHER VISIT THE...
CATACOMBS...
BARONESS?
BARONESS?
ALREADY? >SIGH<

LADY CISARONVA. IT IS AN HONOR TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
YOUR FAVORITE TABLE IS READY FOR YOU.
I LIVE TO SERVE YOU, MADAM.
UN CAFÉ NOIR.
FAITES-EN DEUX.


EN FAIT... CAFÉ AMERICAIN?
S'IL TE PLAÎT.
CAN YOU HAND ME A MENU, PLEASE? I'M HAVING BRUNCH WITH MY OLD FRIEND HERE.
OH, DO YOU HAVE ANY OF THOSE FUN FRENCH HOTDOGS? I'D LOVE THAT AS WELL TO START.
NICE TRY, BY THE WAY.
I PUT A TRACKER IN YOUR HEELS WHILE WE WERE IN THE AIR.
BLUDD?

I FOUND HER.
PERFECT TIMING.
I AM PUTTING THE FINAL TOUCHES ON A POEM I HAVE WRITTEN FOR HER.
I CALL IT...
"AN EYE FOR AN EYE."
LISTEN, BARONESS.
IF YOU JUST WANT TO ESCAPE AND GO ON THE RUN, FINE. JUST DO IT THEN. I DON'T CARE. I GET A FREE TRIP OUT OF IT EITHER WAY. I'LL GO BACK TO DUKE AND EXPLAIN THAT YOU DID EXACTLY WHAT EVERYONE EXPECTED YOU TO DO...
THAT YOU WERE PREDICTABLE.
IS IT TOO MUCH TO ASK FOR A LITTLE PRIVACY?
FOR WHAT?
FINE.
LOOK ACROSS THE STREET.
TRY TO BE DISCREET... IF YOU CAN MANAGE THAT.


SEE THAT COUPLE THAT ARE VERY MUCH IN LOVE?
THOSE ARE MY PARENTS.
THEY FIRST MET AT THAT CAFÉ WHEN THEY WERE YOUNG. AND NOW, EVERY YEAR, THEY COME HERE FOR COFFEE TO CELEBRATE THAT JOYOUS MOMENT.
WHAT? WHY DON'T YOU GO TALK TO THEM? CELEBRATE WITH THEM?
WHY WOULD I WANT TO RUIN THEIR MOMENT?
YOU DON'T THINK THEY'D BE HAPPY TO SEE THEIR DAUGHTER?
I JUST WANT TO SEE THEM. I DON'T NEED THEM TO SEE ME.
YOU'RE AFRAID?
THEY'D HAVE TOO MANY QUESTIONS THAT I DO NOT WISH TO ANSWER.

PARENTS CAN BE LIKE THAT. THEY ASK QUESTIONS BECAUSE THEY WANT TO KNOW US AND BE PART OF OUR LIVES, BUT IT CAN FEEL... A LOT SOMETIMES.
WHEN I WAS A KID, MY PARENTS WANTED ME TO BE A MODEL. THAT WAS THE ONLY FUTURE THEY SAW FOR ME. AND I WAS GOOD AT IT. DAMN GOOD.
BUT IT WASN'T ME. NOT WHAT I WANTED. I FOUND SOMETHING I WAS GOOD AT AND NOT EVERYONE GETS THAT, Y'KNOW? ESPECIALLY NOT MY PARENTS.
IT'S MY LIFE, NOT THEIRS. RIGHT, BARONESS?
PLEASE, CALL ME ANASTASIA.
TK!
WHAT THE HELL? A FALCON?
ARE YOU LOST, BIG GUY?
UH...

SKKREEE!
AHHHH!!
WHAT THE HELL?
OH GOD!
PLEASE TELL ME THAT THIS IS PART OF SOME KIND OF ESCAPE ATTEMPT!
HARDLY.
LISTEN UP, PEOPLE! GET INSIDE! NOW!
STOP. I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE PEOPLE HERE. BUT YOU MUST TAKE MY PARENTS TO SAFETY.
THEY CAN NOT SEE ME.

DAMN!
SLASH!
SLASH!
KRUNCH!
HELLO, BARONESS.

MY NAME IS RAPTOR.
MAJOR BLUDD DEMANDS YOUR AUDIENCE.

STRAIGHT SHOOTERS

DIRECT ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: GIJOE@SKYBOUND.COM

What an absolute banger of an issue--Joshua, Andrea, Lee and Rus CRUSHED THIS one...Major Bludd was always one of my favorite villains and I'm thrilled he's back...for blood! (Sorry, not sorry!) Welcome back to STRAIGHT SHOOTERS, I'm your host, Ben Abernathy and joining with me is Joshua Williamson, Codename: Burnout.

RAPTOR!!!!!! I love that we've been able to introduce some of the bigger name G.I. Joe characters but I wanted to make sure we breathed new life into some of the lesser known versions as well. And Raptor has such a cool visual, I knew we needed to find a place for him. And teaming him with Major Bludd? Hell yeah.

Let's see what letters we got in this month!

Joe Team,

I've been having a great time with the entire Energon Universe so far, but especially G.I. Joe! It really takes me back to my childhood when they first came out (the toys and comics), but the stories aren't retreads of the original concept. It's something new; making it unpredictable and exciting! So much fun!

Awesome, thank you! That is a terrific to hear.

Some questions and comments:

I see you've taken notes from DWJ over in Transformers and started killing off beloved characters to establish stakes. I'm ok with it. My only requests: Don't go crazy with it and don't resurrect them. Both will undercut the weight of the loss.

Oh for sure. We take deaths very serious in G.I. JOE. I want to make sure it means something. That increases the stakes and the story. There are no current plans to bring anyone back. R.I.P. Rock 'n Roll!

What is the metal that covers Destro's head? I've wondered this for decades. It's flexible enough to move with his mouth and not impede his speech and (presumably) move with his eyelids when he blinks. But it's also bulletproof. Is there more of this mystery metal? What's its origin? Has Destro used it in any of his weaponry? So many questions! I don't expect answers to all of these in the letters page, but I will be looking for them as the series progresses over the years.

It has been something that has bugged me since when I was a kid. Like...how does he have this metal tech on his head? How does it move, does his skin breath, etc? It's something we will explore over time. Destro's role in this series will grow and change, but it's way too early to get into that here. That story is for the future.

You'll see. Destro is JUST learning about the Transformers now and might have his own agenda that is different from Cobra Commander...

Another Destro-oriented question: Does Destro have a child? When Destro went to his secret clan cave to converse with his ancestors, it demonstrated a level of family loyalty--a need to propagate the clan; to put it above the individual. As such, I would think he would have a desire to produce an heir if he hasn't already, in order to continue the clan lineage. I can't see how he wouldn't have a secret child hidden somewhere. He would need to raise his heir near him in order to impart his values daily and prepare them for the responsibility of continuing the Destro clan.

I don't have any plans in that realm for Destro. Not to say we can't explore that someday, but we have a lot of other plans and ground to cover for Destro first.

With the celebration of the G.I. Joe silent issue happening in April, and acknowledging that Snake Eyes has yet to appear in this new series, what are the chances that Larry Hama gets invited over to "write" issue 21, as a silent issue and introducing Snake Eyes?

As a massive fan of Larry Hama and ARAH, I love the work he's been doing there. But we try to keep the two universes separate. But we do have wild plans for #21...

That's all I have for now, as I wait anxiously for the next issue to come out. At least I have the G.I. Joe Compendium (Cobra version) to read while I wait. Keep up the great work!

Brian
Tracy, CA

Thanks for writing in, Brian!

Hello Joe Team,

I've been really enjoying the new Joe comics and the Energon Universe as a whole, everyone at Skybound is doing amazing. G.I. Joe #6 was fantastic and I can't wait to see the story continue.

I love the way Transformers elements are included while still keeping it a G.I. Joe story. Was that a transformation cog Cobra Commander has in his greasy mitts? If Cobra plan to build their own Transformers I hope you consider including the Decepticon "Viper" from the Combiner Wars toy line. A Transformer that turns into a Cobra Rattler is too badass of a concept not to use. And since it's a repaint of Powerglide maybe there's some kind of story that can be developed there with Astoria/Chameleon.

Keep up the good work and Yo Joe!
-CL

We appreciate your support and now I'm going to have to look up the Decepticon Viper as that sounds like the ultimate toy young Ben always dreamed of!

Keeping that balance was key to us from the start. That G.I. Joe was still G.I. Joe. We wanted to make sure you could still read these books by themselves. That they had their own stories and identity. So, I'm glad that is working for you.

That WAS a T-Cog. Good eye! But that is the most I can say there...

Dear G.I. Joe Team,

This email may be a little sappy, but at 50 years old, I guess I'm just growing into an old softy.

I just wanted to take a moment to say how much I've absolutely loved the first arc of the new G.I. Joe series. I've just completed issue 6 and feel like the team has completely knocked it out of the park.

THANK YOU!

Growing up in the '80s, G.I. Joe was the toy line for me. I still vividly remember receiving my very first G.I. Joe action figures (Flash and Rock 'N Roll) for my birthday--and from that moment on, I was completely hooked. The characters sparked my imagination and have stayed with me ever since. In fact, I was playing figures with my 8 year old son just the other day and my original Blowtorch figure made it into the battle! So, diving into this new series has been like reconnecting with an old friend, only this time with even more depth and intensity.

I also play with my son with old G.I. Joe toys!

But I'll be honest--after the first couple of issues, I wasn't completely sure how I felt about the new direction. But I stuck with it, and I'm so glad I did. The deeper I got, the more the story pulled me in. By the time I finished Issue #6, I was fully onboard. This series has won me over, and I'm in for the long haul. While I'll always be a huge fan of Larry Hama's A Real American Hero, this new series is incredibly exciting and greatly appreciated. It stands on its own while respectfully building on the legacy that so many of us grew up with.

The tone, the pacing, the fun--everything feels purposeful and energized. The writing is sharp, the world-building is bold, and the twists have kept me eagerly turning every page. It's clear this team is pouring real heart into the story, and it shows.

I'm all in for whatever comes next. If this is just the beginning, I can't wait to see where you take it.

Yo Joe!
Brian S. in Philadelphia

I'm so glad that you like what we're doing. We wanted to make sure this book was accessible to new readers but it was equally important that the original fans could enjoy it, and appreciate the love we have for the G.I. Joe mythology. So, it's awesome that's working and you're along for the ride.

Hello Skybound Crew!

This is William, a new reader! I just wanted to send my VERY FIRST letter after reading a comic! I just finished the Scarlett mini-series and all I can say is WHAT HAVE I BEEN DOING my whole life by not reading G.I. Joe comics??!!

HELL YEAH! FIRST LETTER!

To say I've enjoyed the Scarlett series, as well as the new Skybound continuum of ARAH, is an understatement!! Kelly Thompson is amazing (I MAY be in love with her!), Ferrari is a true artist, and Lee Loughridge may have given new color to MY LIFE...pardon the cheesy pun...LOL!!!

Kelly is pretty great!

Just, Thank You, to Skybound and Image for allowing my eyes to be opened to an all new world, and a new hobby in my life now! Reprint this letter if you feel inclined to show everyone on this team and all the fans reading that I'm so happy to be with you all now!

Sincerely,
William
Charlottesville, Virginia

Thank you for the passion and the first letter, William! SCARLETT was a total BLAST of a series to work on and I'm thrilled it brought you into the G.I. JOE fold. Have you checked out our other minis or the current on-going yet? If not, I can guarantee you're going to LOVE IT!

And that's a wrap for another issue. As always, please keep the letters coming and join us next month when the #$% really hits the fan! Lastly, please check out the preview of Ludo Lullabi's hot new series, GHOST PEPPER, on the following pages...if you loved his work on TRANSFORMERS #19 then this book was MADE FOR YOU!

-Ben

Next month we dive into who Raptor is and make even more trouble for Baroness and Cover Girl. It has some moments that will shock you! Thank you to everyone who writes in. Keep it coming!

-Josh

EXPLORE THE ENERGON UNIVERSE

ROBERT KIRKMAN'S ALL-NEW
TRANSFORMERS AND **G.I. JOE** SHARED UNIVERSE
CONTINUES EVERY MONTH IN THESE TITLES!

ON SALE **JUNE 25**

ON SALE **JULY 9**

ON SALE **JULY 16**

PRE-ORDER UPCOMING RELEASES
WITH YOUR LOCAL COMIC SHOP NOW!

image

licensed by: Hasbro

skybound.com | @skyboundent | @skyboundent

VOID RIVALS, TRANSFORMERS, G.I. JOE and HASBRO and all related trademarks and logos are trademarks of Hasbro, Inc. ©2025 Hasbro. All rights reserved. SKYBOUND and all related images are owned by Skybound, LLC. IMAGE COMICS and all related images are owned by Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved.

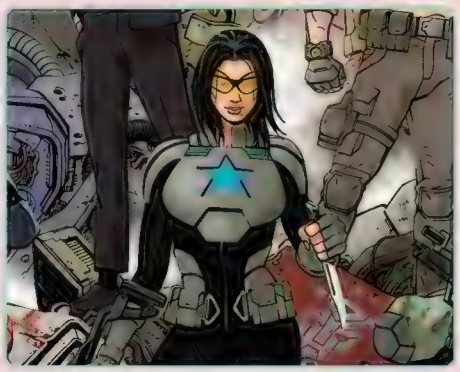
ENERGON EXPERIENCE

Welcome to the Energon Experience! This is a new feature connecting you with the characters and creators of the Energon Universe, starting with your favorite special forces group!

Major Bludd was always a favorite character of mine and I'm SO thrilled he's returned. A lot of fans were buzzing after last month's teaser with his "exit interview" with his Bloodhounds, but the Major has definitely upgraded his muscle with the first appearance of Raptor here in G.I. JOE #8. This dastardly duo will definitely give Baroness and Cover Girl some serious trouble!

Bow!

-BEN ABERNATHY, EXECUTIVE EDITOR



CHARACTER SPOTLIGHT

WHO: Anastasia Cisarovna, Codename: Baroness.

WHERE: The Baroness is on a short holiday to visit Paris, but her enemies are already two steps ahead of her!

WHAT: Can Baroness, with the help of Cover Girl, escape the trap the Major Bludd has set for her?

TRANSFORMATIONAL

I'm sure all the eagle-eyed readers recognized the device that Cobra Commander escaped with at the of G.I. JOE #6, right?! What on Earth could he want a t-cog for? Hmmm...

CREATOR Q&A

Q: Josh--I would imagine anyone that played with G.I. Joe toys as a kid would pore over the file cards to glean as much information as possible from each character--their real name, birthplace, etc. I'll admit that I even created a few of my own characters when I was young with special attention to their set of skills and codename. So, what would your G.I. Joe code name be?

A: I would have to say BURNOUT.

THE ENERGON UNIVERSE CHECKLIST

- ☐ TRANSFORMERS #21 AVAILABLE 6/12
- ☐ G.I. JOE VOL. 1 TP AVAILABLE 6/4
- ☐ CODENAME G.I. JOE DELUXE BOOK ONE AVAILABLE 6/11
- ☐ G.I. JOE #8 AVAILABLE 6/18
- ☐ VOID RIVALS #20 AVAILABLE 6/25

For fans of *Battle Chasers* and *The Moon is Folllowing Us*, the Must Read Action Epic
from LUDO LULLABI and ADRIANO LUCAS

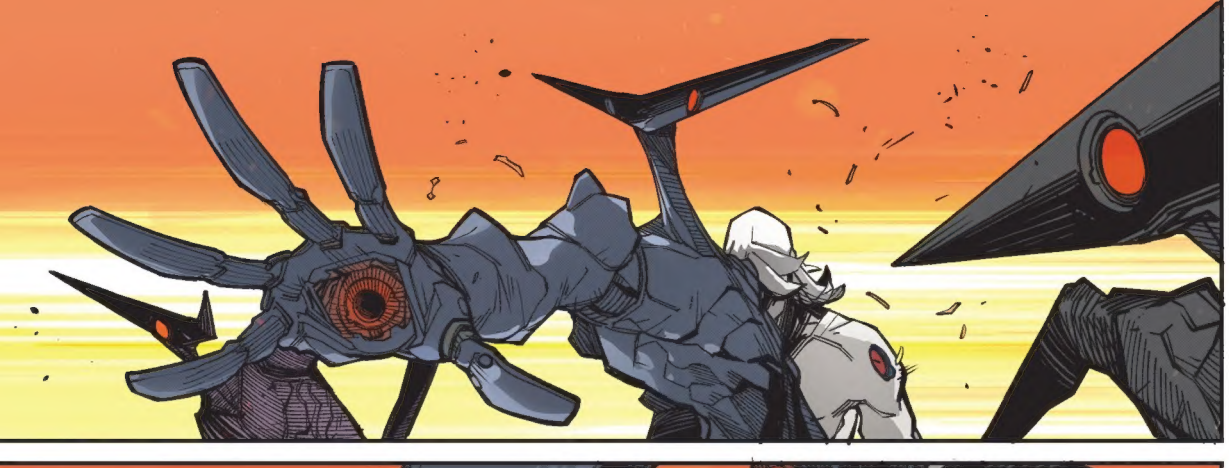
AVAILABLE JULY 2025

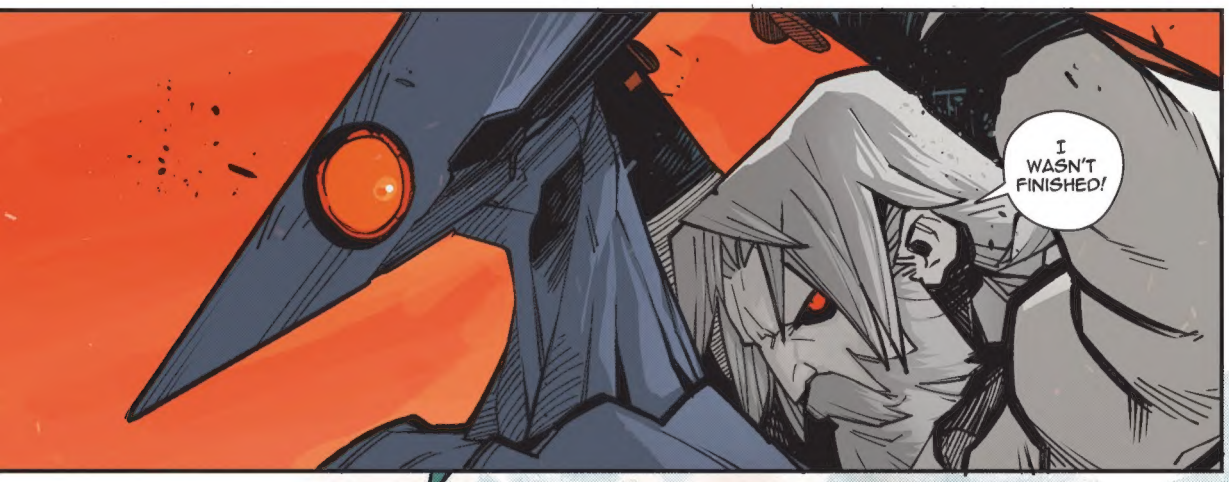
GHOST PEPPER™ © 2025 SKYBOUND, LLC. SKYBOUND and [illegible] are owned by Skybound, LLC. IMAGE COMICS and all related images are owned by Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved.

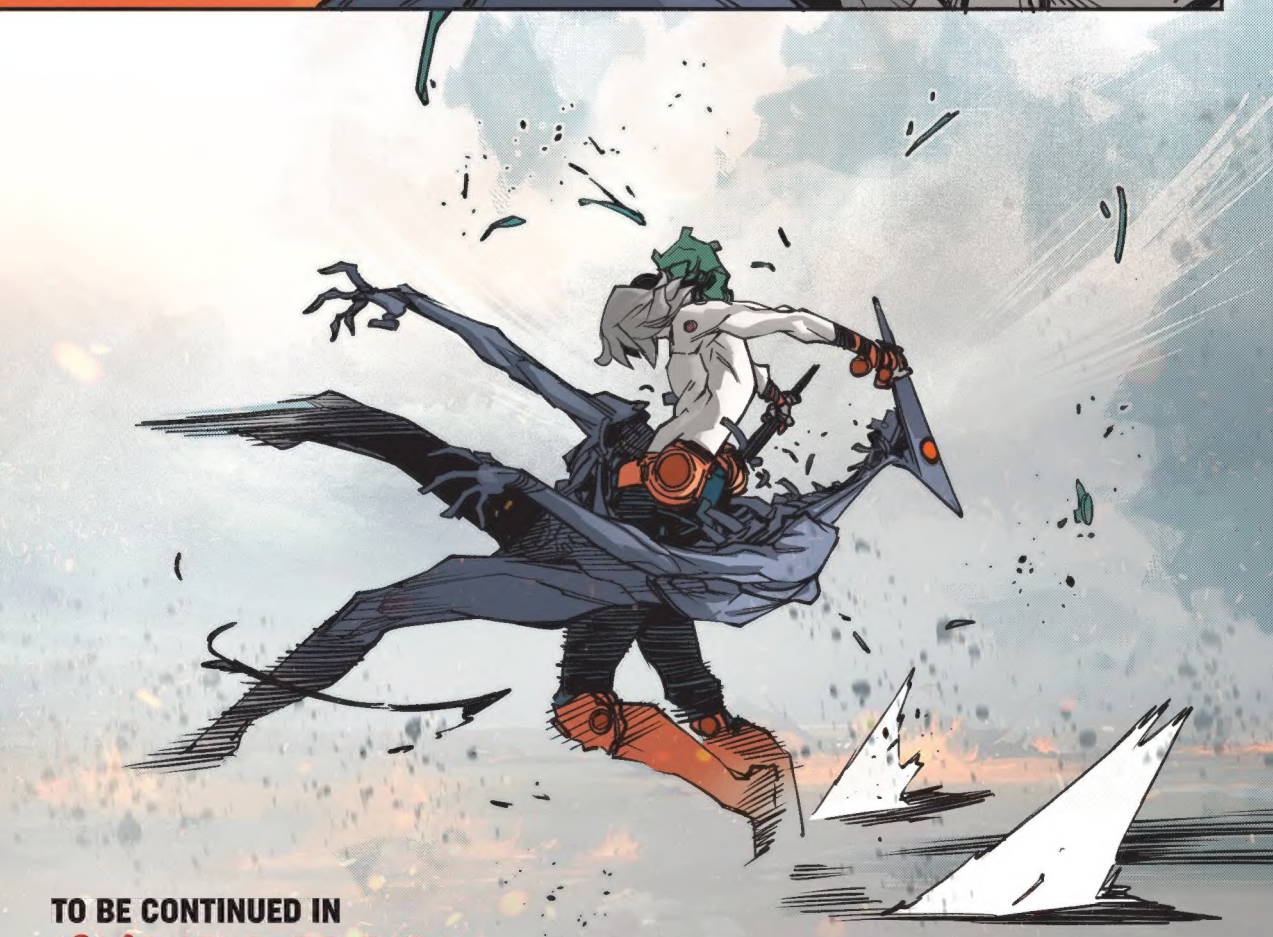
KA-BOOM
OOF!
SERIOUSLY, CAN'T YOU SEE HE'S IN THE MIDDLE OF A MEAL?!
IT'S DISRESPECTFUL TO DISTURB PEOPLE LIKE THIS!
I WOULDN'T PUSH MY LUCK IF I WERE YOU.

WHAT THE HELL HIT MY TRUCK?!
WHO IS THIS GUY!
FINAL WARNING...
IT'S DELICIOUS, ISN'T IT! YOU SHOULD HURRY UP AND FINISH!
IDENTIFY YOURSELF, OR WE WILL PROCEED WITH YOUR ELIMINATION!
WE SHOULD GET OUT OF HERE!
DON'T STAY HERE!
SOMETHING'S ABOUT TO GO DOWN!

YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!
ZAAAAA!!!
BROOM!!!
KANG
OH MY GOD!
THAT GUY WAS COMPLETELY...
DISINTEGRATED...
?!







TO BE CONTINUED IN
GHOST PEPPER #1

COLLECT ALL THESE EXCITING ENERGON UNIVERSE COVERS

COVER A

TOM REILLY

COVER B

ANDREA MILANA

COVER C

ALAN QUAH

COVER D

MARCO FERRARI

COVER E

ROSSI GIFFORD

COVER F

HOWARD PORTER
& ROMULO FAJARDO JR.

COVER G

JASON HOWARD
& ANNALISA LEONI

COVER H

JASON HOWARD

AVAILABLE NOW WHEREVER COMICS ARE SOLD

G.I. JOE and HASBRO and all related trademarks and logos are trademarks of Hasbro, Inc. ©2025 Hasbro. All rights reserved. SKYBOUND and all related images are owned by Skybound, LLC. IMAGE COMICS and all related images are owned by Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved.